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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/750,819	12/28/2000	Sheng-Tsai Chang	JCLA6047	9300

7590
J.C. Patents, Inc.
4 Venture
Suite 250
Irvine, CA 92618

02/22/2002

EXAMINER	
JEAN PIERRE, PEGUY	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2819

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because the "summary of the invention" is essentially a verbatim repetition of the claims. There is no need to repeat that which can be found elsewhere in its entirety. The purpose of the brief summary of the invention is to apprise the public, and more especially those interested in the art to which the invention relates, of the nature of the invention; see MPEP 608.01(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, line 5, the term "... to converter the (n-m) bits of the PCM signal" is not clear. This term does not state in a clear and exact manner whether the lsb (m) or the msb (n-m) is subject to conversion. "N" seems to represent the total number of bits, (n-m) the most significant bit;

in line 7, the term "n>m," is not defined and incomplete;

in line 10, it is not clear whether m1 and m2 are related to the lsb because m1 and m2 are not defined or their sum (m1 + m2) is equal to "n" or "m", please clarify;

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in line 19 the term "the output driver the first and the second output driver devices" is not clear.

An art rejection of the claims as understood by the Examiner appears below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art (Fig. 1) in view of Chester (USP 6,014,055).

The admitted prior art (APA) discloses in Figure 1 the conversion of a multilevel pulse width modulation digital to analog converter that comprises a PCM converter circuit (10) that receives a PCM signal and whose outputs (12, 14) are connected to output drivers

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(16, 18), an output device that receives as inputs the outputs of the output drivers. The APA fails to teach a control device that selects and disables the output drivers in response to the control signal of the least significant bit signal of the PCM signal. Chester discloses in Figure a method for converting PCM signal to PWM signal that comprises an LSB processor that alters (selects and disables) the PCM signal based upon the least significant bit signals to define a PWM output control signal to provide a high resolution PWM signal (see abstract; col. 2, lines 42-59). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate in the prior art system the control technique as taught by Chester to timely sample and generate a PWM signal.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peguy JeanPierre whose telephone number is (703) 308-1968 and fax number is (703) 746-4034. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. The Group fax number is (703) 308-7722.

Peguy JeanPierre
PEGUY JEANPIERRE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

December 12, 2001

Notice of References Cited

Application/Control No.

09/750,819

Applicant(s)/Patent Under

Reexamination

CHANG ET AL.

Examiner

Peguy JeanPierre

Art Unit

2819

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name /	Classification
	A	US-6014055	01-2000	Chester	330/10
	B	US-			
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)

Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.